Riverside PD
CA0331300

### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

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1. Original File No. P18135608	2.	3. Off ID 1076	4. Dist.	5. Crir	ne-Ct.	6. Crime-C	t. 7.	Crime-Ct.		Time Oc 20-2018		9. Day 6
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Supplemental Report

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INVESTIGATING OFFICER

Karla Beler #1076

#### BACKGROUND/SOURCE:

- I am a Detective with the Riverside Police Department assigned to the Centralized Investigations
- 3 Bureau Persons Unit. I responded to 5200 Arlington Avenue to assist with the investigation of an
- 4 Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) that occurred on Arlington Avenue west of Streeter Avenue., in the
- 5 City and County of Riverside. I arrived at the command post at 2150 hours. I was assigned as the
- 6 case agent and Detective Tillett was assigned as the co-case agent

### **INVESTIGATION:**

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- 9 Interview of Riverside Police Department Officer Jared O'Farrell (ID# 1749)
- On 07-23-18 at 1506 hours, partner Detective Tillett and I interviewed Officer O'Farrell in the
- conference room at Magnolia Police Station. Attorney S. Ethir, Riverside County Deputy District
- 12 Attorney S. Shouka, and Riverside County District Attorney Investigator J. Campos were also
- present. The interview was audio recorded on my department issued digital recorder and
- downloaded into records. Detective Tillett and Attorney S. Ethir also recorded the interview. The
- 15 following is a summary of the interview.
- 17 I advised Officer O'Farrell that this was a criminal report and that a copy of the report would be
- submitted to the District Attorney's Office for review. I advised him that he did not have to speak
- with me and that if he decided not to speak to me that no discipline could come to him for that
- decision. I asked if prior to our interview if anyone had ordered him to give a statement and he
- replied, "No." He agreed that he did give a public safety statement to supervision when he was
- 22 asked. I asked him if anyone had ordered him to speak with me or Detective Tillett or anyone in the
- Persons Unit and he answered, "No." I asked him if he wished to speak to me and he said, "Yes."
- Officer O'Farrell said his identification number was #1749. He has been working for Riverside
- 26 Police Department for over five years. He was currently assigned to the East Neighborhood
- 27 Policing Center as a "POP Officer" (Problem Oriented Policing Officer). He has worked the
- assignment for about a year and his radio designator is P29.

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- He told me that he was working on 7/20/18 and was not riding with a partner. He described his 1 uniform as the all black, traditional POP uniform which included an outer carry ballistic vest and
- BDU pants. His vest is marked with police badges and patches on the front and back. He was 3
- driving a marked police unit (Ford, Crown Victoria), Unit #3135. He also wore a body camera 4
- which was activated. He said he did review the audio and video from his body worn camera prior to 5
- the interview. 6

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- I told him that I wanted him to start from the beginning of the day and to tell us how he came to be 8 involved in the incident. I asked him to explain it from beginning to end with as much detail as he 9 could remember and provide. We would ask additional questions if we had any afterward. 10
- At this point, Attorney Ethir said she wanted to make sure it was on record that Officer O'Farrell 12 was not able to view the COBAN video from his police unit prior to the interview. She said Officer 13 O'Farrell believed it would show his attempts to trail the pursuit and potentially would have 14 captured the termination of the pursuit along with the suspect's vehicle. It would also show Officer 15 O'Farrell's involvement after the pursuit terminated. They did not watch the vehicle's COBAN but 16 did watch his body camera video. She said they saw on the body camera video that the light on 17 the unit's COBAN did indicate it was on. She said the statement being provided by Officer O'Farrell 18 was being done voluntarily and was based on his independent recollection and his recollection 19 based on what he saw on the body camera video and the video obtained by Air 1. 20
  - I asked Officer O'Farrell if he felt comfortable proceeding with giving his statement without seeing his unit's COBAN video. He said he did. DDA Shouka asked if the issue with the unit's COBAN was with downloading. I told her there was issue with uploading the videos from all of the police units and it was currently being worked on by the IT department. For clarification, S. Shouka stated it was an IT issue. Attorney Ethir told us something similar happened in the past and she understood. She wanted it on record that Officer O'Farrell was unable to view the COBAN video and it may have captured things his body camera may not have captured.

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- Officer O'Farrell said on Friday 7/20/18, he was in the area of University/lowa when he heard the RPD Channel 1 dispatcher broadcast that Hemet police officers were in a pursuit of a suspect that shot at them. They were at the 215 freeway north bound at Nuevo. He knew the area and knew the pursuit was coming toward Riverside. He was also aware there was a delay between the dispatcher getting the information to them on patrol. He used his hand held radio and went to a frequency he could hear the other agencies on. For officer safety reasons, he wanted to get better
- He then heard Air 1 was moving toward the pursuit and that the pursuit was exiting the 215
  freeway onto Van Buren. He heard radio traffic from the officers in the pursuit that there were
  more shots fired at them by the suspect. He monitored the radio and heard the pursuit was west
  bound on Van Buren from the 215 freeway. He said his goal was to get to Victoria and try to make
  his way toward the area of the pursuit to assist the officers.

updates on where the suspect was going to be traveling.

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- He heard Sgt. Elliott say on the radio that if there were units in position to take over the pursuit to do so because the pursuit was now in Riverside Police Department's jurisdiction. Officer O'Farrell activated his lights and sirens and went Code 3 down Canyon Crest to Alessandro. He then took Arlington to Victoria. During this time, he heard the suspect was driving on the wrong side of the road and his speeds were in excess of 100 mph at various times during the pursuit.
  - Based on the situation and knowing the suspect was actively shooting at police; he knew at some point, when it ended, it could be potentially bad for anyone involved including civilians and police officers. When he got to the area of Victoria/Mary, he stopped and took his rifle from the trunk of his unit to be ready if it was needed. He continued to the area of Victoria/Van Buren. Radio communication was switched to RPD channel 1 and the pursuit went into the area of Cleveland, Jackson and Dufferin.
  - By the time he got to Van Buren, it sounded like the pursuit was coming back toward the Van Buren area. He and other officers positioned themselves near the intersection. He said he didn't want to cross paths with the suspect when he was actively shooting at the police. He saw some

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civilians exercising in the area and he directed them to get away from the area to prepare for the chance the suspect did come through there shooting.

The suspect did not end up going that direction. Officer O'Farrell believed the suspect traveled down to Harrison instead. He and other officers crossed Van Buren continuing Code 3. He said he wasn't actively in the pursuit because there were a lot of officers already involved. He was trying to stay in the area of where ever the pursuit was going to end. The information broadcast was the suspect was still driving extremely fast and was driving over 100 mph at some points through the neighborhoods. Officer O'Farrell continued to stay behind the pursuit but in the area.

The suspect went from Harrison to east bound Indiana. At that point, Officer O'Farrell turned north on Van Buren. He believed it was broadcast that the suspect turned north on either Monroe or Adams. He went east on Magnolia and north on Monroe to California. He heard Air 1 broadcast that the suspect had gone to the area of Sierra and Arch. He continued to listen to the radio to see where the suspect might go. He continued to drive on California toward Arlington.

As he approached Arlington, he heard Air 1 broadcast that the suspect vehicle was west bound in the east bound lanes of Arlington from Madison. He knew there was a raised center median and the suspect was driving against traffic, head-on toward cars. He noticed there were a lot of civilians out and the intersections were packed with people.

He described the intersection as having a cut out from north bound California to east bound Arlington. He further described it as almost a mini frontage road. He pulled into that area. He could hear the broadcast and knew if the suspect was coming west on Arlington from Madison that the suspect was right there at the time that he was there. He stopped the police unit and shut his overhead lights off because he knew the suspect was shooting at police. He didn't want to make himself more of a target by drawing more attention. He shut down the lights and realized the suspect was coming right at him. He looked to his left for the cars that would be traveling east bound on Arlington and noticed they were all stopped and appeared to be piled up. He thought the drivers may have noticed someone was driving right at them and stopped.

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Officer O'Farrell said he then had eyes on the suspect's car. He knew it was silver Chrysler
Sebring. He could see the suspect coming toward him just as Air 1 described (west bound in the
east bound lanes). He guessed the suspect's speed to be 50-60 mph. All of the cars were stopped
and the suspect had nowhere to go. He had positioned his unit and was blocking the other traffic
from traveling onto east Arlington from California.

He knew the suspect had already been firing at police officers throughout the pursuit. He couldn't really see the suspect but could see the silhouette of his head. He was very worried about sitting there by himself at the intersection. He was worried the suspect was going to start shooting at him. He had his rifle in the passenger seat and pulled it up at that time. The suspect came up to about 20 yards in front of him. Officer O'Farrell thought of the many civilians with nowhere to go. He thought of the fact that the suspect already shot at police officers and the potential that he would shoot at police again. He thought the suspect could shoot at civilians as well. The civilians didn't know what was going on and were not moving out of the way. He shot one round from his rifle through the windshield of his unit at the suspect.

The suspect ducked down in the car after the first round was shot. Officer O'Farrell was not sure if he hit the suspect, but assumed the suspect knew he had been shot at by his reaction. The suspect swerved back toward the right and slowed down. At the time Officer O'Farrell shot, he estimated the suspect to be driving around 30 mph. After the shot, the suspect slowed to about 20 mph as he approached the stopped vehicles. He could see the suspect's head and his shoulder, but could not see his hands. It looked like the suspect was trying to duck down and hide from him. Officer O'Farrell was still worried about the people stopped in their vehicles because the suspect had then cornered himself. He feared the suspect would shoot at him or take a hostage because he had nowhere to go. The suspect had nothing else to do considering what he had been doing up to that point.

Officer O'Farrell turned in his driver's seat. His unit's driver's side door was wide open. He shot another round, aiming at the suspect's upper shoulder and head area (indicated with gesture)

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because that was all he could see of the suspect's body at the time. After he fired the round, he could not see the suspect because the suspect's vehicle kept moving forward and there was a vehicle between them.

Officer O'Farrell exited his car and came up to the front of the vehicle that was "blocking" or was between him and the suspect. He could see the suspect clearly at that time. The suspect vehicle's driver's side door was open and Officer O'Farrell had a view of the suspect's back. The suspect was doing something with his hands, but Officer O'Farrell couldn't see what he was doing. He couldn't see the suspect's hands, but the suspect was moving around and still seated in the driver's seat. Officer O'Farrell tried to better position himself to get a better view of what the suspect was doing with his hands or to see what he had in his hands. He was giving the suspect commands to show him his hands. 

Officer O'Farrell was on the passenger side of the civilian's car. He had a good view of the suspect but he still could not see his hands. Officer O'Farrell continued to give commands for the suspect to show his hands. At one point, the suspect did show both of his hands. Officer O'Farrell could see them clearly through the open car door. He told the suspect to keep his hands there or something similar to, "Show me your hands." The suspect looked right at Officer O'Farrell and said something like, "Okay, okay, I get it." The suspect held his hands there very briefly (2-3 seconds) and then he quickly turned toward his passenger seat.

Officer O'Farrell could no longer see the suspect's hands. It appeared as if the suspect was going to the area of his front passenger seat. Officer O'Farrell knew the suspect had already shot at police and was armed. He knew the suspect was door to door with an occupied SUV and other civilians were present. Officer O'Farrell was worried the suspect was reaching for a gun and if he started shooting it would be him, his partners or the civilian there that could be possibly killed with the gun. He also considered the possibility of a hostage being taken by the suspect. Because the suspect reached into the passenger seat, Officer O'Farrell feared he was reaching for a gun and he shot one more round.

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- The round hit the suspect in the back of the head behind his left ear. He saw blood come out of the suspect's head and the suspect slumped down into the passenger side of the vehicle. Officer Hernandez, or someone else that was right next to Officer O'Farrell, broadcasted that shots were fired. Officer O'Farrell held his position on the car. He knew that he had hit the suspect and knew
- the suspect went down. He did not know if the suspect was completely incapacitated. He did not
- 6 want to leave right then and approach the car because he knew the suspect was armed. He also
- 7 considered the possibility of someone else being in the suspect's vehicle. He only saw the suspect
- but it was unknown if someone else was in the vehicle. Officer O'Farrell held his position.

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- There were two girls in the front seat of the car he was up against. The girls were crying
  hysterically and were on the floor board trying to hide. Officer O'Farrell backed up to just in front of
  the front passenger side of the car and the girls were taken out of the car by Officer Hernandez
  and someone else.
- Officer O'Farrell held his position on the suspect until Sgt. Elliott pulled him away. He then stayed off to the side with another officer.
  - Officer O'Farrell told us his rifle was a Colt Commando which was a 556 rifle. I asked him if he typically loaded it to capacity and he said that he loaded it to 28 rounds in a 30 round magazine which was standard practice for the SWAT team. He said his rifle was loaded to 28 rounds that day and he fired 3 shots. He said he was not injured during the incident.
    - I asked him if he could describe the suspect. He said the suspect looked like a lighter skinned Hispanic male with a bald head. He couldn't see him clearly in detail and was more concerned about what the suspect's hands were doing. He said he knew the suspect vehicle was a Chrysler Sebring.
    - He said he did have his handgun with him but he did not fire it. I asked him what made him choose his rifle. He said it had much better accuracy. Given the situation and the amount of people that were around, he knew from his training he would be more accurate with his rifle. He said he

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- brought it up with him because he did not know how the situation was going to end. He did not know if he would be in close range of the suspect or if he would need his rifle for a longer distance.
- I asked him if he had any concerns about the background when he shot the first round as the suspect was driving toward him. He said because of the angle he had, he could see the Sears
- 6 parking lot behind the suspect. At the time, he did not think there was anything between the
- suspect and what was beyond him that could be potentially hit. He felt he had a clear background
- 8 before he shot.

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- Detective Tillett asked him if he remembered what officers were with him as he approached the
  Camry and dealt with the suspect. Officer O'Farrell said he believed Officer Hernandez was to his
  right and Officer Reimer was to his left. He knew Officer Watkins was there and believed he was
  off to his left somewhere.
- Detective Tillett asked Officer O'Farrell if he worked any other collateral assignments. Officer
  O'Farrell said he was a Defensive Tactics Instructor and collateral SWAT officer. He was on the
  SWAT team for just over a year. His SWAT training included hostage rescue, range time and
  marksmanship, entry training, and similar scenarios.
- Deputy District Attorney Shouka asked Officer O'Farrell if he knew where his first and second shot struck. He said he did not know if the first shot hit the suspect or the suspect vehicle at the time.

  He just knew the suspect reacted to that shot because he scooted down into his seat and swerved off. He could not tell if he hit the suspect or the suspect's vehicle with the second round. Officer O'Farrell said he was still in his vehicle when he shot the second round and the driver's side door of his unit was wide open.
  - I asked him what the purpose was for being behind the Camry. He said he wanted to get some kind of cover between him and the suspect if the suspect started shooting at him or his partner officers. He didn't want to be out the open with nothing to get behind. He said the civilians inside

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- the car were down sitting on the floor board as low as they could. They were both crying
- hysterically.

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- And the sponds of the sponds o He did not know who requested medical aid for the suspect but knew that medical aid responded 4
- to the scene. 5
- The interview was concluded. 7
- 8